



LEONARD & BINA ELLEN ART GALLERY
UNIVERSITÉ CONCORDIA
1400, BLVD. DE MAISONNEUVE W.
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COLLECTING: THE INFLECTIONS OF A PRACTICE

SYLVIA SAFDIE AS SEEN BY SHERRY SIMON

COLLECTION 3

COLLECTING: THE INFLECTIONS OF A PRACTICE
CURATOR : MÉLANIE RAINVILLE

CAPSULE 3

SYLVIA SAFDIE SEEN BY SHERRY SIMON

JANUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 13, 2010
OPENING : SATURDAY JANUARY 9, 4-6 PM

Events

TOUR OF THE EXHIBITION

Thursday January 14th, 1-2 PM (In English)
with Mélanie Rainville, Max Stern Curator of the Permanent
Collection, and Michèle Thériault, Gallery Director.

TOURS OF THE VAULT

Wednesday January 27th, 2-3 PM (In French)
Tuesday February 2nd, 2-3 PM (In English)
with Mélanie Rainville, Max Stern Curator of the Permanent
Collection. Places are limited and reservations are required.

SCREENING OF *HERB & DOROTHY*

Saturday January 30th, 6 PM
Megumi Sasaki's recently-released documentary about
Herb and Dorothy Vogel and the important art collection
they built with very modest means. In English with French
subtitles. FREE

LUNCHTIME TALK

Wednesday February 3rd, 12:30-1:30 PM (In French)
Francine Couture, Professor in the Department of Art History
at UQAM and Suzanne Lemerise, Adjunct Professor at l'École
des arts visuels et médiatiques de l'UQAM, will discuss
Quebec's visual arts scene in the 1960s and contextualize
the beginnings of the Ellen Gallery's collection.



COLLECTING: THE INFLECTIONS OF A PRACTICE

The Ellen Art Gallery's collection is nearly 50 years old. Its history has been shaped by acquisition, conservation, documentation and dissemination practices that have evolved over the years. The works grouped together in this exhibition illustrate a combination of factors that have influenced collecting practices over the years, sometimes to the point of altering them significantly. These include shifts in the art world, new legislations, the professionalization of various museological practices, as well as the succession of directors and curators responsible for developing the collection. Ultimately it also includes the material resources made available to the Gallery during its history.

These factors transformed practices related to acquisitions, but they especially modified the contexts in which the collection was developed and conserved. Drawing parallels between these factors and the bodies of work exhibited raises an issue inherent to the collection: the changing contexts and practices of collecting generate various ruptures in the collection's consistency.

This exhibition leads us to reflect upon the shifts that have accompanied the work of the curators who have been responsible for developing the collection. It looks into the effects of its progressive development and, more specifically, into the effects of diverse collecting, conservation, documentation and dissemination practices on the collection as it exists today.

SYLVIA SAFDIE SEEN BY SHERRY SIMON

Sherry Simon, professor in the Department of French Studies at Concordia and a specialist in translation studies, examines from an oblique point of view, two works by Sylvia Safdie. Simon's text is published in an accompanying exhibition brochure, available at the Gallery.

CAPSULE is an exhibition program that invites a writer from a discipline outside of the visual arts and art history to select a work from the Gallery's Permanent Collection as a departure point for a consideration of art and issues.

The Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery's contemporary exhibition program is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts.

GALLERY HOURS :

Tuesday to Friday, 12-6 PM;
Saturday, 12-5 PM

ACTIVITIES : www.ellengallery.concordia.ca

TOURS : Marina Polosa, mpolosa@alcor.concordia.ca
514.848.2424 ext 4778

FREE ADMISSION / Wheelchair accessible

Image : Philip Surrey, *Parking Lot (rear view)*, 1965
Oil on hardboard. Collection of the Leonard & Bina Ellen, Concordia University
Gift of the Galerie Martin, 1965. Photo: Paul Smith